Strengthening of Eastern Navel Command, Visakhapatnam

1543. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the improvement and strengthening of the Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) The facilities at the Eastern Naval Command are being developed commensurate with the requirements of the Navy. Further details cannot be divulged, for security reasons.

Import of Timber and Pulp.

1544. PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government allow import of timber and pulp; and

(b) if so, the details of imports made during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Import of all kinds of timber logs(if sawn and rectangular or square, the minimum size of the logs should be 10 cm x 10 cm x 2 m if cylindrical the minimum size of the long should be 10 cm dia x 2 m length) are allowed for import under OGL by all persons, and wood pulp of all types except rayon grade wood pulp are allowed for import under OGL. Import of Rayon Grade wood pulp is allowed against special licences issued to AU (Indl) in the Small Scale Sector, and against Exim Scrips.

(b) As per the data available, details, in respect of import of timber and pulp during the years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 are contained in the statement enclosed.